

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1-6, 9, 12-15, 18 and 22, add claim 23, and cancel 7, 8, 10, 11 and 20 without prejudice or disclaimer. This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings of claims, in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

administering to a subject ~~for in~~ whom the presence or absence of a ~~wound~~, wounded tissue or inflamed tissue or a disease associated therewith is to be detected, a ~~microorganism or cell~~ bacterium, wherein:

~~the microorganism or cell bacterium is detectable in the subject;~~

~~the bacterium replicates in the subject;~~

~~the bacterium is not pathogenic to the subject and is recognized by the immune system of the subject;~~

~~the bacterium is not targeted;~~ and

monitoring the subject to detect the accumulation of the ~~microorganism or cell bacterium at or in a wound~~, wounded tissue or inflamed tissue ~~in within~~ the subject, whereby, detection of the accumulation indicates the location of the ~~wound~~, wounded tissue or inflamed tissue ~~within the subject~~.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~microorganism or cell bacterium encodes a protein(s) for the therapy of a the detected~~ wounded or inflamed tissue ~~or a disease associated therewith~~.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~microorganism or cell bacterium encodes a luminescent or fluorescent protein~~.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3 1, wherein the ~~microorganism or cell bacterium encodes a luminescent or fluorescent protein that is a luciferase, red fluorescent protein or green fluorescent protein~~.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the ~~microorganism or cell bacterium encodes a luciferase and a protein(s) for the production of a substrate for a luciferase~~.

6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~microorganism or cell bacterium encodes a protein that induces a signal detectable by magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) or that binds to contrasting agent, chromophore or a ligand~~.

7. (Cancelled).

AMENDMENT

8. (Cancelled).

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1-7, wherein the bacterium is selected among an attenuated *Salmonella typhimurium*, an attenuated *Vibrio cholerae*, an attenuated *Listeria monocytogenes* and *E. coli*.

10. (Cancelled).

11. (Cancelled).

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the protein for the therapy of a wound, wounded tissue, inflamed tissue or a disease associated therewith is an enzyme that causes cell death or an enzyme that causes the digestion of debris.

13. (Previously presented, Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the subject for whom the presence or absence of wounded tissue or inflamed tissue is detected has the a disease is selected among endocarditis, pericarditis, inflammatory bowel disease, low back pain (herniated nucleus pulposis), temporal arteritis, polyarteritis nodosa and an arthritic disease.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the subject for whom the presence or absence of wounded tissue or inflamed tissue is detected has disease is an atherosclerotic disease.

15. (Withdrawn, Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the subject for whom the presence or absence of wounded tissue or inflamed tissue is detected has the a disease is selected among coronary artery disease, peripheral vascular disease and cerebral artery disease.

16. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the monitoring is performed by magnetic resonance imaging (MRI).

17. (Cancelled).

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the microorganism or cell bacterium contains an inducible promoter that regulates the expression of the therapeutic protein.

19. (Cancelled).

20. (Cancelled).

21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein:
the disease is an atherosclerotic disease; and
the therapeutic protein is selected from among a lipase, protease, lysozyme, proapoptotic factor and PPAR-agonist.

22. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
administering a therapeutic agent for the therapy of a ~~wound~~, wounded tissue,
inflamed tissue or a disease associated therewith.

23. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the bacterium is administered
intravenously, intraperitoneally, subcutaneously, intramuscularly, topically or intradermally.